

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—In turns.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—It—

Deputy President.—According to the amendment, warders are to get Rs. 20—30 and Head warders Rs. 30—45.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The warders as well as the Head warders should be given, it is understood, free quarters. Rs. 30—45 is not appropriate, while the graduates are given Rs. 30—60 only!

Deputy President.—The question before the House is that the Jail warders be given Rs. 20—1—30 and the Head warders Rs. 30—1—45 per mensem be passed.

Question put and negatived.

Clerks.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Amendment No. E: "*that all clerks be paid Rs. 25—60 per mensem instead of the two grades of Rs. 25—40 and 40—60, and if the same be not possible, they will be allowed to automatically rise to Rs. 60 after 20 years of service.*" What is suggested in the report is a certain number of posts on Rs. 25—40 and a certain number on 40—60. The appendix shows the total number of clerks is something like 200 and odd. Some 200 persons are to get only Rs. 25—40, while 10 or 12 are to get 40—60. That is, clerks who enter service have to starve on 40. My reference to the appendix is about the Judicial Department alone. There are some 200 persons altogether who will get only Rs. 25—40, and there are only 10 persons who get Rs. 40—60. That is certainly an injustice done to the greater number of men. It is only when vacancy occurs in the higher grade that there is a chance of promotion for clerks in 25—40 grade. So, I say that a majority will have to retire on Rs. 40. Therefore, I suggest to change the scale to Rs. 25—60.

Deputy President.—What will be the additional amount that has got to be met? Have you any idea?

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If he has any idea, he will not have talked like this.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—When we consider the equity of a certain thing, it is difficult to consider the financial side. Of course financial implications have to be considered at their proper time. We find that a man who entered service on Rs. 20 has to starve on Rs. 40 after so many years of service and retire on half of Rs. 40. There is no comparison between the number in the lower grade and the number in the higher grade. To overcome this difficulty, I recommend Rs. 25—60 so that every clerk may automatically rise to the highest level of pay. Or as an alternative suggestion I recommend that

after 20 years' service every clerk may rise automatically to Rs. 60.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—I second it.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I rise to oppose it. We have considered the question in detail and giving time-scale is out of the question. Out of the 10 one will be in the 60 to 80 grade and 2 or 3 will be in the 40 to 60 grade, and the rest in the 25 to 40 grade. But we were as anxious as he was that all the clerks should be placed on the 40 to 60 grade. But we have modified and placed before the Government that, after 20 years' service automatically every clerk will be placed on Rs. 40 to 60 grade, with an increment of Rs. 5 annually. Therefore, by 25 years' service he will be entitled to get the pension of Rs. 30 even in the most unfavourable circumstances. Every clerk must get before he retires Rs. 60, and so be entitled to get the pension of Rs. 30. Without looking to the financial position of the State, to bring forward amendments will be irresponsible.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—The position of the clerks of the lowest grade is as unsatisfactory as that of the menials and peons. In para 45 of the main report, it is stated that every clerk should be given a chance of rising to a salary of Rs. 60, so that he may be enabled to draw a pension of at least Rs. 30 on his retirement. But this wish will not materialise in all cases, if there are to be two grades, one of Rs. 25 to Rs. 40 and the other of Rs. 40 to Rs. 60. I would instead suggest one uniform time-scale of Rs. 30—1½—60, which would enable all clerks to get a fairly comfortable living wage after putting in a service of 15 years. I would go a step further and recommend to the Government that the case of all the old clerks who have already put in 25 years' service be specially considered and that they be given the maximum pay of the grade so that they may retire on a pension of Rs. 30 a month.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We have taken that into consideration even with retrospective effect. After 20 years of service he will automatically rise to 40 to 60 scale.

Resolution put and negatived.

Unpassed teachers.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—My next amendment is "*that unpassed hands in the Primary Department be paid Rs. 20—1—30 per mensem.*"

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—No specific mention of it is required. Its recommendation is applicable to unpassed hands. No distinction is made between passed and unpassed.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I second it. My amendment to resolution No. 2 is to this effect, "*that teachers in the Education Depart-*